

From: Kupfer, Ellen
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/3/02 4:24pm
Subject: microsoft settlement

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the proposed settlement. As research shows there is a significant gap along economic lines in availability of technology. 82% of the classrooms in richer communities are connected to the Internet while only 60% of the classrooms in lower income classrooms have access. Funds are tight in Wisconsin due to our revenue control law which limits the amount a school district can raise to fund education. In addition we have a huge budget deficit. Education is one area that is being talked about as a source of money to help balance the budget. Many schools need computers and Internet for their students. This would help them tremendously. Life is not a level playing field for many of our students. Their families cannot afford computers at home so school is the one place that they may have access to them and the help they bring. There is a huge world out there that many would never know without the Internet.

Educators must be trained to use the technology so they can comfortably implement it in the classroom. It is the teacher in the classroom that most influences the student mastery and use of new knowledge. The component of teacher training is critical.

I hope that the court will support the goals as set forth in the settlement. If we truly are to leave no child behind we must give them all the tools they need to be successful.

your time,

Thank you for

Ellen Kupfer
KEA, President

CC: weac.org